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COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany REPORT NO. TOPIC Preparations for Rail Movements in ThuringiaEVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 12 May 1950REFERENCES

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PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

RETURN TO ORIGINATOR

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1. The Saalfeld railroad operations office received the following on 8 April 1950: *

"April 8/ 1740/ B. No.264 from Erfurt

To: Railroad operations offices: A Gera, Saalfeld, Weissenfels
and Erfurt
B Eisenach and Erfurt

Large-scale entrainment of Soviet goods will presumably take place at railroad stations in the areas of operations offices listed under A after 12 or 13 April 1950. For this purpose flatcars will be assembled in the Gera area and personnel cars at the Weimar and Gotha stations. The trains will be unloaded at railroad stations in the areas of operations offices mentioned under B. Operations offices will appoint officials who will supervise the entraining and detraining stations day and night.

Railroad District Administration Erfurt 33".

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2. Freight traffic between Gerstungen and Eisenach was suspended on 12 April 1950 because the Gotha-Eisenach line had to be kept open for 50 Soviet military trains. **

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 Comment:

* Erfurt Railroad District Administration to its subordinate operations offices announced large-scale east-west rail movements (probably troop movements) for about mid-April 1950. The entraining stations were located in the area controlled by the Gera, Saalfeld, Weissenfels and Erfurt operations offices. The detraining stations were located in the Erfurt and Eisenach areas (primarily along the Erfurt-Eisenach railroad line).

The report presumably refers to previously reported rail movements of Eighth Uds Army units between 18 and 23 April 1950. These movements affected component units of the 20th Uds Recz Div, the 21st Uds Recz Div and the 39th Uds Atz Rifle Div, which proceeded to the Ohrdruf and Bindel troop training grounds or a nearby

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destination. ***

** The suspension of freight traffic on the Gerstungen-Lisenach-Gotha line on 12 April 1950 indicates that Eighth US Army units may have moved along this line later that day.

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